

44. (New) A method of generating a signal representative of a pressure applied to a control apparatus comprising a controller including a resistor and an elastic conductive member which moves together with the controller for contacting the resistor, comprising:

(a) generating an analog signal corresponding to a contact area between the resistor and the conductive member;

(b) segmenting the output level of the analog signal into analog output levels; and

(c) assigning preset digital signals corresponding to each of the analog output levels.

45. (New) The method as claimed in claim 44, wherein the resistor increases stepwise with an increase in said pressure applied to said controller.